

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of inducing an immune response in a fish against one or more pathogens which comprises:

transforming a bacterium ~~with a eukaryotic expression vector comprising DNA of interest encoding at least one protein antigen for each of the pathogens consisting of a live, attenuated strain of *V. anguillarum* which comprises a *mugA* gene comprising nucleotides 1218-2610 of SEQ ID NO: 5, the strain having a mutation located within nucleotides 1218-2610 of SEQ ID NO: 5 that renders the strain incapable of expressing a functional *mugA* protein, with a plasmid comprising DNA of interest encoding at least one protein antigen for each of the pathogens; and;~~

~~killing the bacterium;~~

~~immersing the fish in a solution comprised of the transformed-killed bacterium to effect the expression of the protein antigen by the fish to induce an immune response in the fish, the method characterized in that the protein antigen is produced by the fish.~~

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the fish is selected from the group of finfish.

3-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the plasmid comprises a fish promoter of fish origin, a polyadenylation signal of fish origin and a kanamycin resistance cassette.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Withdrawn) A method of inducing an immune response in a fish against one or more pathogens which comprises:

immersing the fish in a solution comprised of a live, attenuated strain of *V. anguillarum*, the strain characterized in that it is incapable of expressing a functional *mugA* protein, the strain having incorporated therein a plasmid comprising:

DNA of interest encoding at least one protein antigen for each of the pathogens, the method characterized in that the protein antigen is produced by the fish.

1 8. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 7 wherein the fish is selected from the group of
2 finfish.

1 9-15. (Canceled)

1 16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[15]] 5 wherein the polyadenylation
2 signal is wolfish AFP poly A.

1 17. (Canceled)